

REMARKS

The rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) of:

Claims 1-12 as anticipated by U.S. 5,644,416 (Morikawa et al);

Claims 1-12 as anticipated by U.S. 5,281,501 (Tatezono et al); and

Claims 1-5 and 10-12 as anticipated by U.S. 5,529,864 (Tachibana et al),

are all respectfully traversed.

The present invention is drawn to an optical recording material, products containing it, and methods of using it, wherein the optical recording material contains a photochromic diarylethene compound (A) or (A-1), of formula (1) where X is formula (A) or formula (B), as recited in Claim 5. Neither Morikawa et al, Tatezono et al, nor Tachibana et al disclose or suggest a compound of said formula (1). While these references may disclose diarylethene compounds broadly, or even particular diarylethene compounds, it is only with the present disclosure as a guide that one skilled in the art would arrive at compounds of presently-recited formula (1). Nor does the applied prior art necessarily disclose or suggest the various methods of the present claims. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejections over prior art be withdrawn.

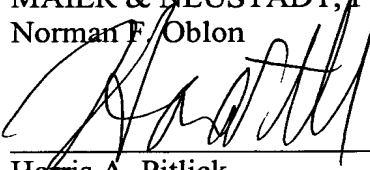
The objection to the Abstract of the Disclosure as being too long is now moot in view of the above-discussed amendment. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that it be withdrawn.

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All of the presently-pending claims in this application are now believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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